MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 APRIL 1982

Israel

Carrington Visit -- UK Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington told a press conference prior to his departure from Israel that it is not reasonable or possible to ask Israelis to negotiate with an organization dedicated to the destruction of Israel. However, in his remarks, broadcast by Jerusalem radio, Carrington expressed concern about the dismissal of West Bank mayors, affirmed his doubts about the autonomy plan and restated his commitment to the principles of the Venice declaration. Meanwhile, British Foreign Affairs Under Secretary John Leahy met with the mayors of Gaza and Bethlehem, the radio reported, but was prevented from meeting with the dismissed mayors of Nabulus and Ramallah. Israeli Foreign Ministry circles said Leahy could meet with any personality from the occupied territories, but not with those who do not hold official positions and are confined to their homes.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said in an interview with IDF radio that his talks with Carrington will help reduce European activity in the spirit of the Venice declaration. This will definitely be to Israel's advantage, he said. Shamir accepted an invitation from Carrington to visit London soon, according to the radio.

Goren U.S. Visit -- Returning from the United States, Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren said that in his meeting with President Ronald Reagan he discussed "a secret matter of top political significance," Jerusalem radio reported. Immediately after meeting the president, Goren had telephoned Prime Minister Menahem Begin, who was greatly pleased with Reagan's attitude toward this "very concrete subject," the rabbi said in remarks reported by ITIM.

Golan Heights -- The IDF tightened the blockade on Golan Druze villages while soldiers collected old identity cards and officials issued new civil cards, according to Jerusalem radio and ITIM. Police detained residents who refused to receive the new identity cards, the radio noted.

West Bank -- A nahal outpost was established north of Jerusalem on land owned by Jordanian King Husayn, Jerusalem radio noted.

Frayj on Recognition -- Jerusalem radio reported that in an interview with the Cairo weekly AL-MUSAWWAR, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj reiterated his call for mutual PLO-Israeli recognition, saying the initiative for this should come from the Palestinians.

Jordan

The Arab Constitutional Alignment, Jordan's first political party since the 1950's, will shortly hold a constituent conference attended by 150 members to approve a draft charter, the weekly AL-'UFUQ reported. The alignment will not be the only political grouping allowed to operate in Jordan, AL-UFUQ said, and it will be a broad front rather than a party with strict ideology and organization.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Iranian forces continued to consolidate recently captured positions and to conduct limited battles in other areas, destroying 13 tanks on the Sumar front, 4 tanks on the Ahvaz front and 3 in other areas, and killing or wounding over 260 Iraqis, according to a communique broadcast by Tehran radio. It reiterated that two Iraqi aircraft were downed on 31 March and that all enemy air attacks were neutralized by antiaircraft units.

An Iraqi military source cited by INA described as a lie Iranian claims to have shot down two Iraqi fighter planes. The source added that Iraqi pilots have paralyzed the Iranian Air Force, which is now completely ineffective. On 1 April two more Iranian targets were destroyed in the Khowr-e Musa channel, according to another military source cited by INA. Twelve Iranians and one Iraqi were killed in recent battles, a military communique carried by INA stated.

Commander's Message, Husayn Remarks -- If our hands are chopped off we shall hold our swords with our teeth in defense of freedom and principles, Iraq's IV Army Corps commander stated in a message to President Saddam Husayn reported by INA. Our field decision was to stand fast in the old position until our last drop of blood, but your sounder decision prompted us to take up a new position, the commander told the president. Meanwhile, Husayn asserted at a press conference that Iranian tactics of concentrating attacks on one point have not succeeded and that Iraqi forces are still maintaining a 1,000-km front inside Iranian territory 18 months after the beginning of the war, Monte Carlo radio reported.

Arab Support for Iraq -- President Husayn has received telephone calls from the king of Saudi Arabia and amirs of Kuwait and Qatar in which they reiterated their support for Iraq in the war, INA reported. Meanwhile, the Iraqi foreign minister sent messages to his Arab counterparts drawing attention to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i's statements which reaffirm Iran's "aggressive and expansionist intentions" against Iraq and the Arab Gulf states, according to another INA report.

Khomeyni, Musavi Remarks -- Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni said in an Islamic Republic anniversary message that neighboring countries should act peacefully toward Iran, which wishes to extend the hand of brotherhood to all Muslims, and should realize that if Iraqi President Saddam Husayn achieved his ambitions, he would act toward them no differently than Israel does. They would then regret they had been afflicted with a second Israel or something even worse, Khomeyni contended. In his remarks, which were read by his son over Tehran radio, Khomeyni also asserted that Iraq has suffered a shameful defeat. He said Iran has so far been engaged only in self-defense and has never intended to commit aggression against any other country.

In an anniversary speech broadcast by the radio, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi likewise said that although Iran's victories will certainly continue until the destruction of Saddam's regime, Iran has not cast a greedy eye on the territory of any other country. Persian Gulf countries, which can no longer claim to be subject to Iraqi threats because Saddam's regime is on its deathbed, now have a suitable opportunity to side with Iran, return to Islam, distance themselves from the United States and end their dependence on Iraq, he asserted. Noting the emergence of some "positive developments" in the Persian Gulf, Musavi said a great movement for returning to the Koran and Islam can be seen throughout the Islamic world.

Sudan

President Ja'far Numayri issued a decree on the formation of the preparatory Central Committee of the Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU) under his chairmanship, SUNA reported. The preparatory committee will have all the powers which had been exercised by the Central Committee, the General Secretariat and the Politbureau before their dissolution, SUNA continued. The committee will be responsible for preparing the SSU's fourth national conference until which the committee will be in permanent session and exercise supreme political power in coordination with executive institutions, the decree stated.

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REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL ANNOUNCES NEW APPOINTMENTS

LD011752 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] In accordance with Article 44 of the DRA Basic Principles and in accordance with the proposal of the DRA Council of Ministers, the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium has approved the following appointments:

Dr Khalil Ahmad Abawi as vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the DRA State Planning Committee;

Engineer Mohammad Yasim Sadeqi as head of the local organs of the state administration leadership of the DRA Council of Ministers;

Dr Mehraboddin Paktiawal as head of the Afghanistan bank, that is to say, the Central Bank, with the rank of minister in the DRA Council of Ministers.

BUDAPEST DAILY INTERVIEWS SHAH MOHAMMAD DOST

LD011208 Budapest MTI in English 1023 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Budapest, 1 Apr (MTI) -- "In case appropriate agreements are reached, the Afghan Government will initiate negotiations with the Soviet Union on a time-table for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops currently staying in Afghanistan for rendering help under a bilateral treaty. The basic aim of agreements with our neighbours is to reduce tension and to guarantee the region's security," said Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost in an interview given to MAGYAR HIRLAP which the daily carries in its Thursday issue.

In connection with foreign intervention into Afghanistan's internal affairs, Foreign Minister Dost stated that his government's declaration of August 1981 about the principles of political settlement continues to be valid to date.

"On its basis we are invariably ready to hold talks with Pakistan and Iran. We think this declaration marks an advance over our proposal of May 1980, because it is more flexible and as such it furnishes a more appropriate basis for discussions. I would like to underline that our suggestion has been favourably received not only by the friendly socialist countries, but also by a number of developing nations and even by certain groups in some capitalist states," pointed out the Afghan foreign minister and summed up the August 1981 proposal as follows:

"The most important thing is preliminary agreement on that the basic subject of the proposed talks will be the elimination of every kind of foreign intervention. Furthermore, international guarantees should be given to ensure that intervention is not repeated. The directly involved parties will have to give mutual commitment to abstain from intervention. We are ready to hold talks about these practically anywhere. Bilateral talks would be more welcome to us, but we do not shirk from a trilateral parley either. It does not mean that if one of the sides keeps out, we will not be willing to hold talks with the other. As for the presence of the UN secretary-general, we have no objection to it, provided he takes part in the deliberations in 'goodwill' capacity."

Talking of Kabul's stand on Afghan refugees, Shah Mohammad Dost pointed out that the above-mentioned government declaration clearly enunciates: Every Afghan citizen living abroad can return home and the Afghan authorities would provide every assistance to the repatriating persons in getting adjusted.

When asked about the reaction of Pakistan and Iran to whom the Afghan Government proposal was addressed eight months ago, Foreign Minister Dost said:

"Unfortunately, no official reply has been received as yet. However, unofficially the Pakistani president described our suggestions as positive and flexible. But naturally we need a more concrete response. As for Iran, it indicated earlier that it had not prepared for the talks."

The Afghan minister pointed out that the extent of the imperialist aid to Afghan counter-revolutionaries has not reduced. In fact, of late even more modern weapons are being provided to the counter-revolutionaries. In addition to the several dozen existing bases on the Pakistani territory, recently fresh counter-revolutionary bases have been set up there.

The daily asked: "What is the reason for the decline in the counter-revolutionaries' armed activity in the foregoing months?

Replying, Shah Mohammad Dost said: "The primary reason is that we have considerably enhanced our defence capacity and we can count on increased support from the masses. In course of the purge operations in last summer and autumn, our army units not only mopped up major gangs but also their bases and stores. Since then these elements indulge into expressedly terrorist attacks in groups of four or five and after the action they flee away to greater distances, most often to their bases beyond the country's frontiers."

What about Afghanistan's relations with non-aligned countries?

In answer, the foreign minister said: "Our foreign policy is based on the principles of peace, friendship and cooperation. We were a non-aligned country and that is what we continue to be. We try to play an active role in this movement. Naturally we will take part also in the summit meeting scheduled to meet in Baghdad in September."

Referring to Hungarian-Afghan relations, he said, "The relationship between our countries has always been friendly. These links have only strengthened since the second stage of our revolution. Since then our cooperation has been expanding in every sphere and qualitatively too.

"We are grateful to friendly Hungary for its help and highly evaluate the political support extended by your country to Afghanistan on every international forum," emphasized Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost in his interview to MAGYAR HIRLAP.

KESHTMAND ADDRESSES KABUL CITY, PROVINCE WORKERS

LD012328 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, met this afternoon in a free and democratic atmosphere in the headquarters of the Central Council of Afghan Trade Unions with representatives of those workers of Kabul city and Kabul Province who displayed initiative in 1981-82 and who pledged to produce more than the plan to welcome the PDPA national conference. Sattar Pordeli, head of the Central Council of Afghan Trade Unions, attended the meeting.

During the meeting, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said: [read by announcer] It is my pleasure and pride that today I am among the country's conscientious and militant workers. We are aware of your initiatives, innovations and your significant role in the production process.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand comprehensively explained the role of workers and toilers of the country in the construction of a genuine, tranquil and flourishing society, and added:

In the times of past decadent regimes our workers were mercilessly exploited but, since the April Revolution, particularly its new development stage, the PDPA and the DRA Government are working to eliminate the last remnants of exploitation to create a new and prosperous life for you.

Explaining the role of Afghan trade unions, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said: The work accomplished by the unions during the short period of its life is appreciable, and the Council of Ministers profoundly expresses its thanks.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand added: Real possibilities and genuine opportunities for the progres of our country and for the construction of a prosperous and tranquil society are becoming feasible as a result of the victory of the April Revolution.

It is for this reason that the enemies of the working class and toilers want to eliminate these possibilities and opportunities, or else to reverse this trend. Because of this principle they embark on unforgiveable crimes. The traitors to the homeland who in the past exploited the working class want to reintroduce the old conditions with the collaboration of U.S. imperialism, Chinese hegemonism and Pakistan. If these crimes had not been committed we would have had the opportunity to accomplish, in a short period, more formidable and more productive work. However, with full decisiveness we must say that the counterrevolutionaries and enemies of Afghanistan cannot succeed -- victory is for the country's toilers.

BAKHTAR reports that after Keshtmand's speech, two of the toiling and inventive workers spoke on behalf of the others and reaffirmed their pledge not to spare any effort in the struggle for the construction of the country and prosperity of their people.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand then asked the toiling and noble workers if they had any questions. Some questions were raised in connection with production difficulties. Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand replied to the workers' questions with sincerity and in a friendly manner.

Speaking on behalf of the workers, Sattar Pordeli, chairman of the Central Council of Afghan Trade Unions, thanked Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand for meeting the workers. He said: The trade unions, since their creation, have been implementing their duties as a united organization for the good of the homeland, under the leadership of the PDPA, and have constantly been endeavoring to take an active part in increasing output.

GOL AQA ATTENDS KHOWST ARMY, PARTY MEETINGS

LD020652 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Brig Gen Gol Aqa, head of armed forces political affairs, yesterday conveyed the greetings and best wishes of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, to the officers, NCO's and troops of Khowst command division and the border force command of Khowst District. They were received with enthusiasm.

Brig Gen Gol Aqa also rewarded those officers and troops of the above commands who displayed heroism in crushing the counterrevolutionaries, by distributing gifts and honorary medals. He expressed the hope that they will win further victories in safeguarding the gains of the April Revolution and its new development stage.

Speaking on behalf of the officers and personnel of these units, the commanders then pledged every self-sacrifice for safeguarding the sacred soil of the homeland, revolution and interests of the people.

According to another report, Gen Gol Aqa today attended the meeting of party activists of Khowst District, which was held in support of the PDPA national conference resolutions and the report that Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, delivered at the glorious historic party conference.

He shed light on the successful conclusion of the PDPA national conference and the role and vlaues of its resolutions for further consolidation of party ranks and other spheres of party life, and wished success for the work and revolutionary struggle of Khowst party activists for the implementation of the conference resolutions. The meeting ended with the issuance of a resolution.

QADER ADDRESSES NANGARHAR TROOPS, ACTIVISTS

LD312252 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Text] Maj Gen 'Abdol Qader, acting minister of defense, today attended a meeting which was held in the headquarters of the 11th Division of Nangarhar Province by the cadres and party activists of the Nangarhar 11th Division and the commando unit of the border battalion to support the resolutions and decisions of the PDPA national conference.

Maj Gen 'Abdol Qader first spoke about the (?contents) of action program and resolutions of the PDPA national conference and its role in the consolidation and strengthening of party ranks.

Speaking on behalf of the troops and personnel of this division, the commander of the Nangarhar 11th Division gave assurances to the party and the DRA Government that they would continue their relentless and just struggle for the implementation of the resolutions of the PDPA national conference and for the total elimination of counterrevolutionary bands.

At the end of the meeting, Maj Gen 'Abdol Qader distributed gifts, provided by the Ministry of Defense, to the officers and heroic troops of the 11th Division who displayed merit and worthiness against traitors of the homeland, revolution and people.

According to another report, Maj Gen 'Abdol Qader, acting minister of defense, returned to Kabul this evening.

BRIEFS

WATER MINISTER RETURNS FROM GDR -- Kabul, 24 Mar (BAKHTAR) -- Dr. Raz Mohammad Paktin, minister of water and power of the DRA, who led an Afghan delegation for an official and friendly visit to GDR at the invitation of the GDR Government, returned home today. The Afghan delegation during its stay in GDR visited the electronic and the electro-technical establishments of that country and held fruitful talks with GDR authorities regarding the expansion of cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0428 GMT 24 Mar 82 LD]

COMMERCE DEPUTY RETURNS FROM GDR -- Kabul, 24 Mar (BAKHTAR) -- The deputy minister of commerce of the DRA, who was on a friendly visit to the GDR, returned home today. During his stay in GDR, he visited the international exhibition at Leipzig and held talks with the GDR authorities regarding the expansion of economic and trade relations between the two countries. The deputy minister of trade also signed a contract for the purchase of consumer goods with the trade establishments of the GDR. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0452 GMT 24 Mar 82 LD]

AGREEMENTS WITH USSR -- The contract for restoring the northern irrigation system with the value of Rl,253,217 was signed today in the Ministry of Water and Power with the Sovkhozstroyeksport enterprise of the USSR. According to this contract, a number of personnel, heavy machinery and equipment, construction equipment and vehicles will be handed over to the Afghan side within the next 24 months. The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that the purchase contract of 40 tons of [word indistinct] roofing lead for $17,390 was also signed between the Ministry of Water and Power and the export and import enterprise Kolkhozpromeksport of the USSR. [Excerpts] [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 27 Mar 82 LD]

ERSHAD, PRESIDENT CHOWDHURY REVIEW SITUATION

BK011231 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Chief Martial Law Administrator and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Lt Gen H.M. Ershad called on President Assanuddin Chowdhury at Banga Bhavan this morning. They reviewed the overall situation in the country and other important matters.

ERSHAD NAMES RETIRED GENERAL AS SPECIAL ADVISER

BK010246 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1795 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Text] Maj Gen (retired) Mohammad Iskandrul Karim, AWP PSP [military distinctions; expansions unknown] has been appointed as special adviser to the Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] with the rank and status of an adviser to the government. This was announced by the CMLA Secretariat in Dacca today.

DACCA REPORTS SURRENDER, ARREST OF 2 OFFICIALS

BK010200 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Former Deputy Prime Minister Jamaluddin Ahmed and former Minister Maj Gen (retired) Majidul Haq have surrendered to the martial law authorities and they have been taken into custody on charges of corruption, misuse of power and antistate activities. This was announced by the Chief Martial Law Secretariat in Dacca last night.

CURFEW HOURS IN DACCA 'FURTHER RELAXED'

BK020122 Dacca Domestic Service in Bengali 0100 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] The curfew hours in the Dacca metropolitan area have been further relaxed. Effective today, the curfew will be in force from 2400-0430 [1800-2230 GMT]. This was announced by the Chief Martial Law Administrator's Secretariat in Dacca last night.

OFFICIAL REITERATES FOREIGN POLICY UNCHANGED

BK011131 Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] Foreign Secretary Humayan Rasheed Chowdhury on Thursday [25 March] reiterated that the foreign policy of Bangladesh "remains unchanged," reports BSS.

The foreign secretary was briefing the heads of diplomatic missions on the foreign policy of the government.

Mr. Chowdhury said Bangladesh's activities in the field would continue to be based on three following principle foreign policy objectives:

(A) To consolidate Bangladesh independence and sovereignty;.
(B) To develop friendly bilateral, regional and international cooperation with a view to accelerating the process of political and social development of Bangladesh; and
(C) To cooperate with the internaional community in promoting the cause of peace, freedom and progress.

Bangladesh, he said, hopes to pursue an active, comprehensive and purposeful diplomatic role in the international arena.

He added it would be a sound and forward-looking foreign policy, effectively promoting Bangladesh's national interests and projecting ourselves as a nation fully capable of serving the cause of international peace, progress and security.

In pursuing the three principal foreign policy objectives, he said, Bangladesh would be guided by the principles of scrupulous respect for sovereign equality of all nations, noninterference in the internal affairs of other states, peaceful settlement of all problems and disputes, and the right of every nation to determine the form of its social, economic and political system.

All the accredited heads of diplomatic missions and international organisations were present at the briefing.

The foreign secretary said "We shall continue to adhere strictly to the objectives and principles of the U.N. Charter, the Non-aligned Movement, the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the Commonwealth of Nations".

He said all treaties, agreements and Bangladesh's multilateral and bilateral commitments would be honoured. Bangladesh, he said, "shall continue to foster and strengthen its bilateral relations with all countries in general and the neighbours in particular".

There will be no change in the country's principled stand on various international issues, the foreign secretary said.

"Bangladesh shall continue to support the struggle of the Palestinian brethren and the demand for withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab lands", he said.

On Afghanistan and Kampuchea, he said, "we shall render our unstinted support to the demand for the withdrawal of all foreign troops and to the principle that these two peoples be allowed to determine their own destiny without any outside interference".

In the international economic field, he said "Bangladesh shall strive to bring about a harmonious North-South relationship based on the spirit of Cancun".

Regionally, he said, Bangladesh's initiative in forging intra-regional cooperation through an association of South Asian states would continue. Bangladesh, he said, "shall endeavour to develop closer South-North relations on the basis of the principles of economic cooperation among developing countries".

He said that Bangladesh would continue to condemn apartheid and racialism in all its manifestations.

Bangladesh's efforts to bring about an end to the fratricidal war between Iraq and Iran will remain unchanged, he said.

The foreign secretary said "Our role in general will be balanced and moderate, though our voice will be heard when needed".

He acknowledged with deep gratitude the support and sympathy extended by different countries in the endeavours to develop the economy of Bangladesh and to provide a better quality of life to the people.

He said he had not the slightest of doubt that "you will continue to give us support and friendship as we shall give you the same in every possible way".

MINISTER ON OUTCOME OF GANDHI'S LONDON TALKS

BK311635 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Text] Britain has agreed to contribute its full share of the sixth replenishment to the International Development Association [IDA]. This follows Mrs Gandhi's discussions with the British prime minister during her recent visit to London.

Disclosing this in the Lok Sabha today, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee said that the IDA's sixth replenishment ran into serious trouble as the United States has declined to contribute according to the agreed-to schedule. Consequently, other important donors have reduced their contributions. The minister said that as a result of the prime minister's discussions, the United Kingdom has also agreed to cooperate with India in persuading other donors to contribute their share.

The minister also disclosed that the goverment proposes to negotiate with the British consortium for the early setting up of 1,000-megawatt power station at Singroli. This will not only facilitate development of the associated coalmines but also improve the power situation in the northern region.

The minister expressed the hope that the prime minister's discussions in London will also result in expanding cooperation between India and the United Kingdom in the areas of trade, industry, commerce, science and culture. A similar statement was made by Pranab Mukherjee in the Rajya Sabha.

SOVIET MINISTER DISCUSSES WATER COOPERATION

BK261027 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] India and the Soviet Union held discussions on bilateral cooperation in the field of water resources development in New Delhi yesterday. The Indian delegation was led by the minister for irrigation, Kedar Pandey, and the Soviet Union by the minister for land reclamation and water management, Vasilyev.

The Soviet delegation also called on Agriculture Minister Rao Birendra Singh.

Vasilyev, who has since visited the central water and power research station in Pune and the Kakuli irrigation project in Maharashtra, complimented India for its achievement in irrigation and allied fields.

Protocol Signed

BK270309 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have signed a protocol to develop cooperation in the field of irrigation and water management. The agreement was signed by Union Irrigation Minister Kedar Pandey and visiting Soviet Minister N.F. Vasilyev.

Under the protocol, both countries will exchange ideas of the problems of reclamation of saline soil.

U.S. URGED TO WITHDRAW SEA LAW PROPOSALS

BK010931 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] India has expressed the hope that international pressure would persuade the United States not to press its amendments to the draft convention on the Law of the Sea already arrived at.

Replying to questions on behalf of the minister of the external affairs in the Lok Sabha today, Petroleum Minister Shiv Shankar said that the mood of various countries is to adopt the convention and sign the treaty for the establishment of the international sea bed authority irrespective of the stand taken by the United States. He said the U.S. has suggested five amendments to the draft convention whch were counter to its earlier stand in support of the convention. Eleven medium industrialised nations of the West are trying to mediate on this issue at the insistence of the chairman of the Conference on the Law of the Sea.

Shiv Shankar reiterated India's commitment to the concept of the sea bed resources as the common heritage. At the 11th session of the conference, now meeting in New York, India and other members of the Group of 77 are trying to persuade the United States not to reopen the negotiations on the fundamental aspects on which consensus has already been reached.

INDIAN EXPRESS ON U.S. ARMS FOR PAKISTAN

BK301654 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 23 Mar 82 p 6

[Article by Ravi Rikhye: "The Truth About U.S. Arms"]

[Text] In one respect at least Indian intelligence has finally been vindicated. The U.S. will give more than $1.6-billion worth of arms to Pakistan because Saudi Arabia is providing cash for additional purchases. Since 1972, there have been reports of large Saudi contributions, ranging from $1 billion to $7 billion. But there is no proof of these estimates in the form of equipment actually inducted into the Pakistan Armed Forces. Though precise figures are hard to obtain, it appears that between 1972 and 1980, Pakistan obtained around $2-billion worth of arms from France, China and the U.S., its main suppliers.

We know much of this was paid for by Pakistan itself, and by any yardstick must be considered modest. Saudi aid has been there, but to be measured in hundreds of millions of dollars, not in billions. In the next few years, however, the Arabs may provide up to $2 billion, though Indian sources predict a higher figure. Before discussing the fresh arming of Pakistan, some misconceptions need clearing up.

First, the other half of the Reagan package is not disguised military aid. The total package of $3.2 billion is divided equally between military and development aid. The latter consists of $450 million for agriculture, $300 million for PL-480 disbursements, $400 million for farm roads, water, and energy, $75 million for population and health, a similar sum for miscellaneous provisions and $340 million for project reserve. Also, there is $50 million specifically earmarked for Baluchistan and $15 million for tribal areas.

Second, the military part of the package is not "aid" in any sense of the word. The U.S. may consider it as such because Pakistan is being allowed to repay in installments, but that money has to be repaid in full, with high interest. Virtually all India's major arms deals also involve repayment in installments.

Third, the U.S. cannot [preceding word published in boldface] send Pakistan more than $1.6-billion worth of arms by charging less than full price. This would violate U.S. accounting procedure and probably land Pentagon officials in jail. By law, the U.S. Government has to bill equipment at its full price. That amount either has to be paid in full by the recipient, or, if U.S. Congress has approved actual aid -- what the Americans call "grant aid" -- then some or all that amount can be written off. However, since grant aid has not been given to Pakistan, it will receive $1.6-billion worth of arms at market prices and shall have to pay for them.

An Indian official grudgingly conceded the point, but asked: "What constitutes market price? The Americans can take a depreciated piece of equipment out of their stocks and charge a fraction of its original cost in strict accordance with accounting procedure."

The answer to this requires an analysis of the origin of the equipment being supplied to Pakistan. First, there is the entirely newly-built equipment, like the F-16A combat fighters. These will come fresh off the General Dynamics' assembly line. Second, there is new equipment being taken out of U.S. reserve stocks, to permit early delivery to Pakistan, which will be later replaced in the U.S. inventory. Third, there is equipment in U.S. reserve stocks, slated for withdrawal on grounds of obsolescence, which will be sold rather than scrapped.

Clearly no markdowns can take place in the first and second categories. The manufacturer has to be paid in full, and new equipment supplied from stocks has to be replaced, again, with the manufacturer being paid in full. Markdowns can take place only in the third category, because that is equipment slated for eventual scrapping.

The evidence is, however, that no such markdown is taking place. Only one item in this third category is involved so far, the M-48A5 medium tank. This is the old Patton tank with which we are thoroughly familiar, but with a new engine, a new gun, and new electronics, which make it the equivalent of the M-60A2, the tank now passing into the U.S. Army's reserves. It is difficult to extrapolate a precise figure from the information available, but it appears that the price for the M-48A5 is $800,000, which cannot be called throwaway. Its equivalent is our earlier version of the Vijayanta, which probably would cost $600,000 at current prices. The U.S. is not giving away M-48A5's because global demand for this tank is high. It costs one-third less than the M-60A3, the standard U.S. tank, and is almost as good, and so may be considered a bargain of sorts.

So far, the equipment contracted for is just under $1.8 billion, so Pakistan is already over the $1.6-billion limit. Anything extra has to be paid for in cash. Thanks to the U.S. Congress, we have fairly good details on what is happening. By U.S. law, all military sales over $25 million, and all sales of lethal equipment over $7 million, have to be submitted to the Congress. If it does not object within 30 days, the sale may proceed.

Incidentally, the Congress does not always make public what exactly has been requested. In the case of Hawk surface-to-air missile sales to Iran, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, the details were deleted from publicly-available transcripts of congressional testimony. Nonetheless, while the U.S. is generally secretive about Saudi Arabia, in most other cases relevant information is freely available. Since Pakistan hardly falls into the same category as Saudi Arabia, or even Israel, South Korea and Taiwan, for which details are available, we may assume that whatever Pakistan buys will become known to us.

Of the $1.8 billion, two-thirds is accounted for by the 40 F-16A/Bs slated for delivery 1982-86. This includes life-cycle spares, which explains why the cost is $30 million per aircraft instead of the unit cost of $12 million for a standard F-16A. For the same amount of money, 60 F-16/79s, the export version of the Falcon, could have been purchased, providing Pakistan with more aircraft.

The next priority has been Pakistan's armour and anti-armour forces, hardly surprising in view of India's major expansion of its tank and mechanised forces, and Pakistan's inability to modernise this vital arm since 1960. Twenty AH-1s attack helicopters have cost $165 million; 200 M-48A5 tanks and 35 M-88A1 tank recovery vehicles have cost about $200 million; 24 M-901 special anti-tank missile-launching armoured personnel carriers and 75 M-113 armoured personnel carriers have cost about $25 million -- a total of almost $400 million.

The rest of the money, about $160 million, has gone to start modernisation of Pakistan's artillery, and covers 40 M-110A2 self-propelled 8-inch howitzers, 64 M-109A2 self-propelled 155-mm howitzers, and 75 M-198 towed light weight howitzers. Incidentally, it is not always easy to sort out what each system has cost because different sources tend to break up the dollar totals differently. Spares, ordnance and training have been included in the figures.

To summarise: $1.2 billion has been spent on the PAF and $555 million on the army. By one account $395 million is on credit, by another estimate $275 million is on credit; the rest is cash.

We can speculate on follow-up deals for the period 1984-87. Depending on availability of money, 20 more F-16As exclusive of attrition aircraft are likely. Army equipment could include 700 more M-48A5 tanks, upwards of 500 M-113 armoured personnel carriers, and about 500 guns; upwards of 30 AH-1 attack helicopters and utility helicopters; more anti-tank missiles and launchers; and engineering and signal equipment. The PAF has a requirement for C-130 transports and the Hawk surface-to-air missile. About 10 transports and six Hawk batteries might be purchased. There is also a requirement for the Stinger shoulder-fired SAM and the Vulcan gun anti-aircraft system.

For the navy, aside from the Harpoon anti-ship missile, it is difficult to predict purchases. At one stage an additional four Gearing-class destroyers were in prospect, but with the Royal Navy putting up several more modern ships for sale, Pakistan would be better off buying British ships. Already, the 19-year-old light missile cruiser HMS London has been purchased.

This raises the possibility that the West Europeans may also put together a credit package for Pakistan. The problem, as always with European weapons, will be cost, which has been responsible for Pakistan limiting its purchases from that area. It will be of great interest to see if Pakistan obtains four E-2C Hawkeye airborne warning and control aircraft (the package might cost $200 million). These aircraft could prove to be the means by which Pakistan offsets India's growing air strike capability.

Two items Pakistan is not getting. One is Spruance-class destroyers, which at almost $500 million each are rather more than Pakistan can afford. The other is very high-performance aircraft like the F-14, F-15 and F-18, which have life-cycle costs up to $85 million per aircraft.

INDIAN-ASSEMBLED JAGUAR SUCCESSFULLY TEST-FLOWN

BK310955 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Text] The first Indian-assembled deep-penetrating Jaguar aircraft soared into the sky today. The sophisticated aircraft was successfully test-flown in Bangalore this morning after it was rolled out of the assembly line at the state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. Defense Minister R. Venkataraman, Deputy Defense Minister Sigh Deo and Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Dilbagh Singh were among those gathered to witness the inaugural flight. Union Shipping and Transport Minister Virendra Patil and Karnataka Chief Minister Gundu Rao were also present.

The Jaguar aircraft can be effectively used for counter air operations and tactical close support. It will have greater thrust than the engine fitted on the Jaguar used in the Royal Air Force and the French Air Force. Because of this, it will have improved combat performance and enhanced maneuverability. The chief test pilot, Wing Commander M.W. Tilak, who flew the aircraft, described it as an excellent plane.

Later, Defense Minister Venkataraman told newsmen that the achievement is a credit to our engineers. In all, 45 Jaguar aircraft will be assembled. It will also be manufactured within the country soon, he added.

The defense minister further said that the government is negotiating for getting the improved version of the MiG plane from the Soviet Union. Negotiations are also on for the Mirage aircraft project.

RAJESHWAR RAO REELECTED CPI GENERAL SECRETARY

BK291646 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Mar 82

[Text] C. Rajeshwar Rao has been reelected general secretary of the Communist Party of India. He was elected by the National Council which met in Varanasi today.

C. ..PT ACTION CLEARS WAY FOR WEST BENGAL POLLS

BK301121 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Mar 82

[Text] The Supreme Court today dismissed the writ petition challenging the publication of electoral rolls in West Bengal. The five-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Y.B. Chandrachud also unanimously set aside all stay orders of the Calcutta High Court in this regard. This clears the decks for the election commission to go ahead with the process of holding state assembly elections due in June. The writ petition was filed by the Congress-I and six other political parties.

TIBETAN COMMUNIST PARTY-IN-EXILE DISSOLVED

BK011033 Hong Kong AFP in English 0937 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] New Delhi, 1 Apr (AFP) -- The Tibetan Communist Party in exile has been dissolved, the latest issue of the semi-official TIBETAN REVIEW reported here.

The party, which incurred the wrath of other Tibetan exiles in the late 1970's, remained dorment for 4 years after being formed in 1976, and reactivated in 1979. It was dissolved on March 10, the TIBETAN REVIEW said.

The review carried a statement signed by Party Chairman K. Dhondup, which cited several reasons for its dissolution.

The party leadership said that besides becoming an "unintentional source of political nuisance and dissenting influence on the Tibetans," the members were subject to biased propaganda." The party also cited financial problems as one of the important reasons for its dissolution.

The membership strength of the party was never more than 200, informed sources said.

The party, however, towed an anti-Chinese line in the Tibetan "freedom struggle."

BRIEFS

REMOTE-SENSING SATELLITE -- India is planning to set up its own remote-sensing satellite in 1985-86. This was disclosed by Minister of State for Science and Technology C.P.N. Singh in the Lok Sabha on 31 March. He said the national remote-sensing technology has provided a quick and accurate method of surveying and monitoring the natural resources. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 Mar 82 BK]

ALL-INDIA RADIO TRANSMITTERS -- The Lok Sabha was informed today 12 transmitters of All-India Radio will be strengthened and 12 new stations will be set up during the current plan period. Giving this information, Minister of Information and Broadcasting Vasant Sathe told the house that India has been allotted 780 channels for daytime operation in various places in the country. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Mar 82 BK]

TALKS WITH IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONTINUE

LD011258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit correspondent in Pakistan, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who is in Pakistan heading a high-ranking diplomatic and economic delegation, this morning met with Pakistan's Minister of Finance, Commerce, Planning and Provincial Cooperation Ghulam Ishaq Khan. Mr Velayati was accompanied by the charge d'affaires at the Iranian Embassy in Islamabad and by the under secretaries at Iran's Ministries of Commerce, Foreign Affairs and Roads and Transport.

During this meeting, which lasted for about 1 hour, the two sides discussed barter trade, particularly wheat, sugar, linen and textile fabrics from Pakistan. The signing of the relevant contracts was deferred until the Pakistani commerce minister's visit to Tehran, which will take place in about 2 weeks' time. During these talks, a draft agreement on road transportation between Iran and Pakistan and also the proposal for cooperation in the expansion of roads and railways was put forward by Iran and agreed upon. Arrangements were made to sign the relevant documents during the Pakistani commerce minister's visit to Tehran.

According to this report, after the meeting the Iranian and Pakistani delegations began the third round of diplomatic talks, together with the foreign ministers of the two countries and the heads of the joint economic, diplomatic and cultural committees of Iran and Pakistan, at the Foreign Ministry of Pakistan in Islamabad. During these talks, the talks between the two delegations over the past few days were summarized.

According to the same report, at a joint meeting this afternoon the heads of the diplomatic, economic and cultural delegations of Iran and Pakistan will carry out their final appraisals of proposed preparations for cooperation between the two countries and the solving of potential problems.

Press Conference

BK011625 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Addressing a press conference in Islamabad this afternoon, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said his talks with the Pakistani foreign minister were continuing in a sincere and cordial atmosphere and the results will be made known tomorrow. He said Iran was determined to strengthen its relations with the Islamic states, Third World and neighboring countries. Dr Velayati said Iran and Pakistan had good and close relations from the beginning and both countries are linked with many common bonds, the most important being the Islamic bond. He said his visit had realized brotherly expectations.

Answering a question on Iran's stand on Afghanistan, he said the talks with the Pakistani foreign minister were continuing. He said Iran's stand was that the Soviet forces should withdraw from Afghanistan unconditionally and no other country's forces should replace them. He said Iran wanted the Afghan people to be provided with an opportunity to choose their own destiny and the Afghan refugees to be allowed to return to their homes with honor and dignity and in peace.

Answering a question on the Iran-Iraq war, he again mentioned the three conditions Iran considers necessary for dialogue. He said Iran wanted peace, but one based on justice and honor.

Answering another question, the Iranian foreign minister said there was only one way to solve the Palestinian issue and liberate Jerusalem and that was unity among all Muslims of the world. He said the biggest threat now being faced by the Islamic world was Israel.

He said he had met with Imam Khomeyni before coming to Pakistan and he was in very good health.

SRI LANKA

VISITING BRITISH LABOR PARTY MP ORDERED TO LEAVE

BK020554 Hong Kong AFP in English 0517 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] Colombo, 2 Apr (AFP) -- Sri Lanka has ordered the immediate deportation of a British member of Parliament, Ted Grant, a militant radical of the Labour Party, it was reported today.

Mr Grant, invited by the Nava Sama Samaja Party [NSSP] (New Equal Society Party) to participate at its sessions, had been scheduled to remain in the country until April 7.

Vasudeva Nanayakkara, leader of the NSSP, a breakaway from the Lanka Sama Samaja Party, a pro-Trotskyist group, told the ISLAND newspaper that the immigration controller had asked him to produce Mr Grant, as there was a deportation order to be served on him.

He said he was given no reason for the order. Defence Ministry officials refused to comment, according to the ISLAND.

Mr Nanavakkara told the ISLAND that he had protested to President Julius Jayewardene at the harassment of a British parliamentarian.

Last Monday, Mr Grant told a press conference that Sri Lanka's ruling United National Party (UNP) was the most reactionary force in the country and that former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike's Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) was the only alternative.

Mrs. Bandaranaike was deprived of her civic rights for abuse of power during her seven-year rule following the findings of a special presidential commission.

Although Mr Bandaranaike was disenfranchised and therefore cannot contest an election or participate in it on behalf of her party, political observers here believed that the SLFP is the main contender for power at the national election due next year.

Attempts are also being made to bring together some of the anti-government forces in a solid front against the government.

Mrs Bandaranaike's party split last year following internal strife, with her former Deputy Maithripala Senanayake and her son Anura Bandaranaike breaking away.

However, in the last few weeks there have been strenuous attempts at achieving unity and the indications are that son Anura and some of the breakaway group will rejoin Mrs. Bandaranaike, although it seems unlikely that Mrs. Bandaranaike will admit her former deputy into the re-grouped party.

MUSAVI: NO INTENTION OF INTERFERING IN GULF

LD011126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0931 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Speech by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi on anniversary of the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran, given in Imam Hoseyn Square in Tehran on 1 April -- recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. With congratulations and greetings to the beating heart of the world of Islam, the great (?leader) Imam Khomeyni [shouts of "God is great"]; with greetings and praise to the fighters whose hands and arms, which are being supported by the hand of God, Imam Khomeyni prides himself in kissing; and with congratulations and greetings to you, great nation, who are always present on the scene, to whom and to whose active and untiring presence on the scene we owe all victories and successes:

A point which I wish to make is connected with the war and its consequences in the region and on our foreign policies. As we have repeatedly announced, we are not an aggressive nation. At the beginning of the war the imam of the nation said: We are not an aggressive nation and will wage aggression against no one, but, if anyone engages in aggression against us we will smash his mouth. [shouts of "God is great"] Throughout this long war we have not deviated from this great guidance which has emanated from the Islamic aspirations of our nation. Despite all the propaganda conspiracies, the whole world now knows who is the aggressor and which country has been subjected to aggression.

However, although we have achieved great victories and although these victories will certainly continue until the destruction of Saddam's regime, we have not cast a greedy eye upon an inch of the territory of any other country. [shouts of "God is great"]

We have repeatedly declared to those small countries in the Persian Gulf that there is no reason for them to be frightened of us. You should be frightened of America. Our country has no ambitions concerning your countries. We say only that the Persian Gulf is an Islamic gulf and that it should remain Islamic, and that America's filthy hands should be removed from the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. [shouts of "God is great" and "Death to America"]

Is this an anti-Islamic slogan? Is it an antihuman slogan? Is it contrary to your interests? Are you Americans? Are your destinies intertwined with America's destiny?

We say that despite all the American propaganda which tries to portray our country as a threatening and aggressive country and to claim that we have intentions of aggression, threatening and raising the issue of Bahrain, we have no intention of interfering in the internal affairs of other countries. This is a principle defined by our Constitution.

At the moment, those countries have been provided with a suitable opportunity. They can no longer say that they are subject to Iraqi threats, that Saddam's regime is strong, that it creates explosions here and there, that it forces them to pay him money. Today is the day when they can achieve their independence. Today they can count on the great power of our nation in the region. Today is the day when they should themselves feel and know that their interests and the interests of their countries will be served by being on our side, will be served by returning to Islam, will be served by distancing themselves from America, will be served by ending their dependence on Iraq. Saddam's regime is on its deathbed, and no assistance will prevent the shameful toppling of that regime. [shouts of "God is great"]

We are also witnessing some positive developments in the Persian Gulf. We see some signs which reveal the desire of these countries to achieve greater independence, which reveal their appreciation of new realities in the region, and which reveal the general awakening of the Muslim nations in the region.

They are beginning to realize that they will not be able to confront this great movement. The movement is not confined only to Iran; Iran is only a supreme manifestation of this movement. Look at the occupied Palestinian lands, listen to the slogans of the Muslim, arisen Palestinian nation and see how much they have changed compared with 4 years ago. The slogan of "God is great" is a slogan which has proved its effectiveness. Of course, anyone who tries to confront this slogan anywhere will be doomed to destruction. [shouts of "God is great" and "Khomeyni is the leader"]

In the region and among the Islamic nations we see that each day the ground is being prepared further for the establishment of a united Islamic front among the Muslim nations. The slogan of "God is great" is being shouted in Jordan; Koran recitations are being held in secret in houses in Arab countries under fascist and reactionary regimes; gatherings are being convened here and there; the great movement for returning to the Koran and to Islam can be seen throughout the world of Islam; the great movement has started in the occupied lands under the deadly weapons of the Zionists -- all these are signs of the will and desire of the multimillions-strong Muslim masses throughout the world to establish a front behind which they can fight against all blasphemy which exists in the world, and which can establish an order in the world based upon divine values.

In all the countries the Muslim nations are beginning to discover their infinite power. This is a divine phenomenon. These are divine glad tidings. This is part of God's favor, which we are experiencing with our flesh, blood, heart and souls. Most certainly with the spreading of this attitude and as a result of the continuous presence of you, great nation, upon the scene we will be able, and all the Muslim nations will be able, to overcome their difficulties and to achieve an order in the world which is in keeping with the holy station of man.

May God's greetings and grace be upon you.

RALLY MARKS ISLAMIC REPUBLIC ANNIVERSARY

LD011518 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Dear listeners: As announced at the beginning of the newscast, at today's great gathering of the people of Tehran in Imam Hoseyn Square to celebrate 1 April [the anniversary of the approval of the Islamic Republic in a referendum], a 12-point resolution was issued which was approved with shouts of "God is great" by those present. We draw your attention to the text of this resolution:

[Begin recording of unidentified person reading the resolution] We the Muslim Iranian nation, on the eve of final victory and following our great and glorious marches and demonstrations, bring our legitimate rights and goals to the ears of the people of the world, together with our shouts of "God is great":

1. The sacred order of the Islamic Republic is the result of the blood of our illustrious martyrs, such as Motahhari, Beheshti, Raja'i, Bahonar, Madani, Dastgheyb and many other anonymous martyrs of this nation from among the armed forces, the guards, the tribal mobilization and many other popular forces. We, the Muslim nation, will continue to the last drop of our blood for the glory, elevation and expansion of this divine order throughout the world. To achieve this, we shall relentlessly continue to fight all the domestic and foreign enemies. [shouts of "God is great"]

2. We, the Muslim Iranian nation, will follow the line of theocratic rule and with all our being will obey the orders of the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the imam of the nation. We will do our utmost to the last drop of our blood to implement the goals of the Islamic revolution. [shouts of "God is great"]

3. Religious seminaries have been and continue to be the true guardians of Islam and the real protectors of the Koran and the traditions of the prophet of God. While expressing our gratitude for the constant presence of this genuine clergy in the battlefronts between truth and falsehood, and while emphasizing the decisive role of the clergy in the continuation of the revolution, we announce our support for these supporters of the oppressed people. [shouts of "God is great"]

4. While expressing our congratulations to our ever-watchful fighters for their recent victories in the battlefronts between truth and falsehood, we present our gratitude and appreciation to those self-sacrificing and devoted individuals, upon whom be the greetings and grace of God and His angels; and, as our martyred teacher Raja'i used to say, the fate of the war should be decided on the fronts; we too, together with all the fighters, shout: war, war, until victory. [shouts of "God is great"]

5. While expressing our greetings to the pure souls of the martyrs of the Islamic revolution of Iran, especially the martyrs of the Fath operations, we praise the unity, harmony and cooperation existing among all the forces engaged in battle and ask them to continue their Fath operations with our total solidarity. They should know they will enjoy our support until the conquest of Al-Quds and the appearance of the last standard-bearer of divine rule, the beloved mahdi. [shouts of "God is great"]

6. Each nation's destiny is decided by that nation alone; "God will not change the condition of a people until those people change their own condition." [Koranic verse] Therefore, while issuing warnings to those countries who in whatever way have assisted or are engaged in assisting the aggressive Saddam, as well as those countries planning to interfere in the affairs of the Iraqi people; we call on the Muslim Iraqi people, by relying upon God Almighty, the liberating Islamic ideology and by receiving inspiration from the methods of struggles and the Islamic and popular movement launched by the Iranian people, to continue resolutely and unwaveringly their Islamic revolution under the leadership of the imam of the nation until final victory and until an Islamic republic is established in Iraq. [shouts of "God is great"]

7. Over the past bloody 3 years, the years of struggle and self-sacrifice, the Muslim Iranian people have demonstrated that they will never submit to the yoke of world oppressors. We declare, on the third anniversary of the Islamic Republic of Iran, that we will fight the world oppressors with all our might, particularly the arch-Satan, the criminal America, whose hand is drenched in the blood of the world's deprived people and freedom-seeking individuals. We declare we will not rest until the destruction of apostasy, blasphemy and oppression in whatever form. [shouts of "God is great"]

8. We call on the misguided and instrumental elements, considering the imam's order on amnesty and his divinely-inspired benevolence, to come to their senses and return to the arms of Islam. We also call on the Islamic revolution courts to demonstrate utmost decisiveness in dealing with these fighters [against God] as they always have. [shouts of "God is great"]

9. We call on the officials responsible for foreign propaganda to exert more efforts and coordination to safeguard the Islamic Republic and to export the revolution and its combative and spiritual culture on the basis of the imam's recent order to thwart sinister propaganda and fabrications spread by imperialist media. We call on them to make the liberating and humanitarian Koranic message heard by the world's oppressed peoples. [shouts of "God is great"]

10. The amazing victories achieved by the Islamic Republic's Armed Forces in fighting the aggressive Iraqi forces and the internal mercenaries in the service of the world oppressors are indicative of God's omnipotence and the strength of the Islamic Republic.

While condemning the kangaroo courts set up to try the fighting Muslims in Bahrain and Egypt, we warn the region's governments that any resistance to the crushing will of the nations will not achieve anything but annihilation. [shouts of "God is great"]

11. The Muslim people of Iran consider the recent moves by the Muslim Palestinians on the West Bank of the Jordan, which continue through ideological slogans and popular methods, as a newly evolved phase.

We condemn the new policies adopted by usurping Israel against southern Lebanon and call on the Muslim Palestinians to continue their path relentlessly and unwaveringly, while remembering that Israel -- this germ of corruption in the Middle East -- must be destroyed. The Iranian nation is prepared to provide any assistance in order to turn Palestine into a graveyard for the plundering Zionists, these enemies of mankind. [shouts of "God is great"]

12. While expressing our support for all liberation movements in the world, including those in Palestine, Afghanistan, Eritrea, the Philippines and others, we consider any attempt anywhere in the world to counter Islamic liberation movements as a criminal and un-Islamic act, and we condemn it. [shouts of "God is great"]

Long live the Islamic Republic of Iran, led by the imam of the nation. Once again, shoulder to shoulder with our brave combatants on the battlefronts, we shout: war, war until victory is achieved! [end recording]

SUPREME DEFENSE COUNCIL SESSION HELD 1 APR

LD011710 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the first session of the Supreme Defense Council of the new year was held this afternoon, under the chairmanship of President Khamene'i. The following officials participated in the session: Hashemi-Rafasanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly; Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister; Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic; Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Colonel Salimi, defense minister; Colonel Mo'inpur, commander of the air force; Ahmad 'Azizi, deputy minister of foreign affairs; Gharazi, president of the War Publicity Staff; and brother Sham'khani, a revolution guards commander. During the session, the latest events on the battlefronts were studied.

After the session, which was held at Imam Khomeyni's residence, members of the Supreme Defense Council were received in audience by the leader of the revolution and commander in chief and submitted reports on the latest developments on the fronts of the imposed war. At this session, the imam of the Islamic nation issued some directives.

According to our correspondent, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni also attended the session.

RAFSANJANI ON AREA REACTION TO VICTORIES

LD020050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Interview with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani after 1 April Supreme Defense Council session -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Considering the favorable situation, what good news do you have for our Muslim nation and beloved combatants regarding a victorious end to the war?

[Answer] Well, we shall continue our military operations to destroy the enemy and force him out of our country. But, we need a better end to the war, more than the enemy's destruction. The most important thing is that the Ba'th Party in Iraq, particularly Saddam and his friends, must be punished as criminals at the end of the war for the great crime they have committed, in whatever manner the Iraqi nation or international authorities consider appropriate. [sentence indistinct]

[Question] In your opinion, what effect will the latest victories have on the pro-Iraqi position of some of the region's reactionary regimes?

[Answer] It is too early to have a clear view on this. Either alternative is possible: On the one hand, they may become disappointed and accept reality; on the other, they may be frightened by us. They are hostile to the Islamic Republic because a revolution has resolved the difficulties it faced and it has emerged victorious. They do not want such a thing to exist in the region. Their hostility may increase and [word indistinct] or they may accept reality and admit that this force is permanent and that the Islamic revolution has opened its path. Of course, I hope that they will do the latter. We have already assured them; we have announced that we are not a threat to them unless they want to serve the anti-Islamic and antipeople forces, in which case the situation will be different. If they choose a healthy life we can cooperate with them. We hope (?they will take the presence of the Islamic revolution in the region seriously).

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 842

LD011802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Communique 842 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. On the fronts west of Dezful, the self-sacrificing, victorious combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran proudly and bravely continue to consolidate the positions under their control and to wage limited and random battles. On the Ahvaz fronts, the combatants of the ground forces, by opening fire on enemy positions, destroyed 4 tanks belonging to Saddam's duped forces and, by destroying a number of their trenches and positions, killed or wounded approximately 40 Iraqi servicemen.

On the Abadan fronts, sporadic exchanges of gunfire continue. Our heroes have killed 20 Iraqi servicemen and destroyed a number of their positions.

Our naval heroes on the Khorramshahr front, retaliating against and silencing enemy fire, destroyed four observation posts, two trenches and one assembly point of the Saddamists and killed a number of their servicemen.

Yesterday, parts of the city of Abadan became the targets of long-range artillery fire from the Saddamist mercenaries. One person was martyred and a number of our dear Abadani compatriots were wounded.

An exchange of artillery and heavy-weapon fire continued yesterday on the country's western fronts. On every front in this region the heroes of Islam, retaliating against the deceived Saddamists, silenced their fire and inflicted the following losses and casualties on the enemy:

On the Sumar front, they killed a number of enemy servicemen, destroyed one of their cannons and damaged or destroyed 13 of their tanks.

On the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab front, enemy artillery and tank positions became the target of fire from our ground forces' batteries; several light and heavy vehicles were destroyed and a number of Iraqi servicemen were killed or wounded.

Two days ago, on the same front, our mighty combatants, in a series of surprise operations, destroyed two mortars, two 50-mm heavy machineguns, one missile-launching pad and three tanks of the Saddamists.

In Gilan-e Gharb, a truck carrying enemy servicemen was destroyed and the servicemen killed. The heroes and zealous fighters of the irregular tribal forces on the fronts defended by them, while safeguarding their positions in the Zeleh Zard region, carried out a surprise attack on the enemy. The weak enemy forces were forced to change their position.

During these operations, 17 Iraqi servicemen were killed or wounded, while on other western fronts our combatants destroyed two enemy tanks, one mortar, a number of trenches and one tank. The number of Saddamists killed or wounded on these fronts exceeded 200.

On the Marivan front and in the Paveh region, the self-sacrificing troops of our ground forces, by pounding enemy positions, destroyed nine light- and heavy-weapon emplacements and two trucks of the Iraqi forces, and killed or wounded a number of servicemen.

Our gendarmerie combatants in the (Ganjveys) region, by opening mortar fire on the positions of the Iraqi forces, destroyed several of their mortar positions and observation posts and killed a number of the Saddamists.

Yesterday all air attacks by the forces of the aggressive Iraqi Armed Forces were neutralized by the self-sacrificing troops of our antiaircraft units and, as was announced in the previous communique, two of their aircraft were downed and other enemy aircraft were forced to flee.

NVOI CRITICIZES TIES WITH PAKISTAN, TURKEY

TA010837 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Yardstick for the Islamic Republic of Iran's Ties With Other Countries"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: In connection with the visit to Pakistan of a delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran, headed by the minister of foreign affairs and high-ranking political and economic officials, we deem it appropriate to focus attention once more on the foreign policy of our liberated homeland. In order to take revenge on the emancipated Iranian nation, world-devouring U.S. imperialism is not desisting from any plot, threat and aggression. From economic boycott to laying naval and military siege to our country, to hatching and implementing counterrevolutionary plots within the country by means of its multifarious elements and mercenaries, planting bombs, assassination and so forth -- these are all crimes that have been prepared and implemented and continue to be carried out by U.S. imperialism and according to the prescription and plan of its Central Intelligence Agency.

One of the means used by the United States against the Islamic Republic of Iran is the implementation of plots in our southern neighboring countries. During recent months we have witnessed such plots fabricated by the CIA in some of the countries on the other side of the Persian Gulf, including Bahrain. After the so-called discovery of these plots, U.S. and Western mass media -- and along with them the mercenary scraps of papers of these shaykhdoms, influenced by the intimations of world-devouring America -- accused revolutionary Iran of carrying out plots and subversive activities in these countries. It is following this propaganda tumult fabricated by the CIA and the scaring of the leaders of subservient regimes of Arab shaykhdoms such as Bahrain and others that America has managed to further smooth the way for its penetration as much as possible into these countries, and is inducing their leaders to sign a so-called security defense agreement against Iran's alleged attacks. All are aware that the sole danger threatening not only the Arab shaykhdoms on the other side of the Persian Gulf but also all the states of the region, including our liberated and revolutionary homeland, is the danger of the military presence of America in the region, which has surrounded the countries of this region with its military bases and which through various means is intensifying its influence and domination over countries that are dependent and in bondage.

Regarding the policy of our homeland's Islamic government, Mr Velayati, our country's minister of foreign affairs, in respect to the American plot in Bahrain, has rightly said that the source of all the plots and poisonous propaganda waged against the Islamic Republic's regime undoubtedly stems from the intimations of the United States.

Foreign Minister Velayati explicitly stated that the Islamic Republic of Iran, as the most powerful country of the region, has so far shown that, first, it is determined to safeguard the Islamic Republic's might and power, and second, under no circumstances does it have the intention of interfering in the affairs of others, and that this is nothing more but an accusation. Mr Velayati warned the region's governments not to succumb to the satanic intimations of U.S. imperialism.

Yes, the basic foundation of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is mutual respect, recognition of the sovereignty of neighboring nations and struggle against U.S. imperialism.

Evidence and documents show that America is plotting against our Islamic Republic not only through some of its subservient regimes in the Persian Gulf but also through the regimes governing Turkey and Pakistan. Accepting and believing the fact that America has transformed Turkey and Pakistan into a base for plotting against our revolution and Islamic Republic does not necessitate a long discussion. Are our Islamic Republic's officials not aware that, for example, world-devouring America has scores of military bases in Turkey, and that all of Turkey's economic, military and political foundations are linked with thousands of threads to the Pentagon and U.S. monopolies? Are our homeland's people not aware that the military coup in Turkey was the reaction of world-devouring America to our nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution, led by the imam?

Regarding Pakistan: Who is not aware that the United States is placing billions of dollars worth of arms at the disposal of Pakistan's antipeople regime, not for the sake of the eyes and eyebrows of Ziaul, not for nothing, but in order to consolidate its domination and influence in Pakistan and to use this country as a bridgehead against our Islamic Republic and democratic Afghanistan? How can one talk of struggle against world-devouring America, and at the same time establish close relations with America's subservient regimes such as Ziaul Haq's? These are issues, in connection with the foreign policy of our liberated homeland, toward which one cannot be indifferent.

Fortunately, positive tendencies have come about in our emancipated homeland in respect to foreign policy and in the direction of the imam's and the revolution's popular and anti-imperialist line, and our Islamic Republic is gradually attaining its real position in the ranks of anti-imperialist countries. In order to consolidate such a tendency in the direction of the revolution and the interests of our nation, the basis and yardstick for the expansion of our relations with all countries, particularly neighboring countries, should be the anti-imperialist stance of these countries in the face of imperialism, led by America, Enemy No 1 of our nation and all nations.

NVOI URGES OPEC TO CONTINUE ANTI-CARTEL STRUGGLE

TA301618 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 29 March carried a commentary, entitled "The Oil Cartel and Subservient Regimes Can Be Forced To Retreat by Intensifying the Struggle," which said: The latest OPEC conference held last week in Vienna was finally able to adopt a firm decision in connection with fixing the level of oil production by the countries of this organization.

After the shah's overthrow, the only hope of world-devouring America and the oil cartel in implementing their subversive programs against OPEC rested with Saudi Arabia and some subservient emirates of the Persian Gulf. At the request of the United States and the oil cartel the Saudi regime increased its oil production to the extent that the balance of supply and demand in the international oil consumer market shifted dangerously to the detriment of OPEC countries.

Of course, the consequences of such a treacherous policy, which could be clearly foreseen, were not of any consideration to the leaders of the Saudi regime, for these puppets and traitors to the Arab people and oil-possessing nations do not think of anything but amassing wealth and safeguarding their corrupt government.

These individuals who falsely talk of supporting the Palestinian people and defending the prestige of the Arab people actually betray the Palestinian and Arab people. They support and encourage both U.S. imperialism and aggressive Israel in implementing their criminal and adventurous plans. It is by using the natural resources and financial reserves of the Saudi regime and subservient emirates that U.S. monopolies, and above all international Zionism, strengthen Israel financially and militarily. This is not a secret of which the leaders of subservient regimes, such as the regime of the Saudis, are not aware.

The leaders of these regimes willingly and intentionally betray their people and the oil-exporting nations. However, experience has shown that through cohesion, unity and consistent struggle nations can force the leaders of puppet regimes to retreat. Saudi Arabia's oil policy has not only aroused the protest of Arab peoples but also the protest of some Arab governments. Saudi Arabia's acceptance in the recent OPEC conference to reduce oil production is in fact the first victory of progressive oil-possessing nations and governments in imposing their just demands and in confronting the plots of the oil cartel.

VOICE OF IRAN ON MEETINGS WITH COMMUNIST ENVOYS

NC311338 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 30 Mar 82

[Text] Ambassadors of four [as heard] communist countries met and talked with several officials of the clerical government in Tehran. The DPRK and GDR ambassadors met with Agriculture Minister Mohammad Salamati, and the Hungarian ambassador held talks with the mullahs' state minister and head of the Plan and Budget Organization, Mohammad Taqi Banki. Fidel Castro's ambassador to Tehran held talks with Ahmad 'Azizi, the deputy foreign minister of the clerical government. Soviet Ambassador in Tehran Vladimir Vinogradov held talks 2 days ago with 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the mullahs' foreign minister.

Political observers regard these consecutive visits between ambassadors of communist countries with officials of the Islamic Republic of special importance and describe these as a fresh effort by the communists to further infiltrate into Iran, especially when the Tehran Government is daily moving further away from the Free World and is turning to the communists.

4,936 PRISONERS PARDONED: 7,087 SENTENCES CUT

LD311806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Justice Ministry's Public Relations Office has announced the following:

In putting into effect the amnesty decree of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 4,936 prisoners have been pardoned and another 7,087 have had their sentences reduced.

BRIEFS

MINIGROUP MEMBERS FREED -- According to the Central News Unit, 120 minigroup detainees who repented and were detained in the Qa'emshahr Islamic Revolution Guards Corps detention center were given amnesty by the imam through the Qa'emshahr Islamic Revolution Court and were released. [Text] [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Mar 82 LD]

ZANJAN GOVERNOR GENERAL APPOINTED -- The Cabinet today approved the proposal of the Ministry of Interior that Mr (Jahromi) be appointed governor general of Zanjan. [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Mar 82 LD]